

Buston, Geo R

[Kansas City, Mo], 1919

~~Lafayette~~ ~~Mo~~ ~~1919~~

Kansas City, Mo.

January 31, 1919.

Dear Sirs:

The inclosed article speaks
for itself.

I have consented to aid Mrs.
Curtis, the widow of the man
mentioned in this clipping, in
selling this medal.

Shall be very glad to know as
soon as possible whether or not you
are interested in securing this medal.
If so, what offer can you make in
regard to same?

Yours sincerely,

George R. Huston

917 Tracy Ave,

GRH/AB

Kansas City, Mo.

Exact copy of article printed in Kansas City Star, February 9, 1908.

WAS A GIFT FROM MADISON

THIS MEDAL ONE OF SEVEN PRESENTED
TO INDIAN CHIEFS

*A Curious Relic of a Treaty Made in 1809
by the Fourth President—Was
Plowed Up on a Nebraska
Prairie.*

Nearly one hundred years ago—in 1809 it was—James Madison, fourth President of the United States, made a treaty with seven Indian tribes that dwelt northwest of the Ohio river, in the heart of the wilderness. To each of the chiefs of these tribes, including the Delawares, the Pottawatomies and the Miami clans, the Great Father in Washington sent a token of the compact signed between them. The offering of the chief executive was a heavy silver medal, of fine workmanship, bearing on one side a raised bust of the President and on the other a design of a pair of clasped hands, beneath the crossed pipes of the white man and the red man—emblems of everlasting peace and friendship.

The medals were worn with much pride, doubtless, by the seven warriors so signally honored, then handed to succeeding generations and finally were mislaid or lost. So far as is known only one has ever been heard from by the United States government since that time. It is owned by a Rosedale, Kans., man, Corwin S. Curtis, proprietor of a wood-working factory and machine shop at 1718 Kansas City avenue, in that city. Mr. Curtis has taken his medal to the national mint in Philadelphia and compared it with the bronze original there.

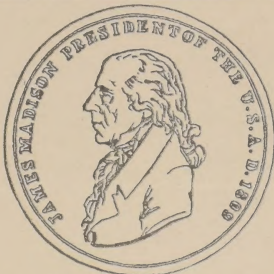
"The superintendent of the mint told me the medal is genuine and that it is the only one of the seven ever returned there," said Mr. Curtis a few days ago. "I have had

the medal since 1868 and have refused to part with it for \$1,000."

Here is the story that Mr. Curtis tells of the finding of the long lost medal:

Where the Medal was Found.

"Out on a Nebraska prairie a few miles from Fremont, along in the spring of 1868, a settler was breaking the virgin sod on his farm. The plowshare was cutting three inches below the wild grass. As the farmer was walking behind the plow he noticed that a circular object was turned up with the grass roots and lay in the sunlight on top of



OBVERSE OF THE MADISON INDIAN PEACE
MEDAL.

the furrow. He first thought it was a piece of tin and did not stop his team to examine it. As he came to the place on his next round he noticed that, instead of being heavily rusted as tin would have been had it lain underground so long, the metal had been only slightly darkened. He picked up the object and found that it could be polished readily. From its weight he judged it was silver. When he had brightened the oxidized surface he read the words, 'James Madison, President of the U. S., A. D. 1809.' On the other side he read, 'Peace and Friendship,' and saw the emblems of the crossed peace pipes and clasped hands. Then he knew the medal was of some his-

See Madison Indian Peace

Medal

" Indian Peace Medal